cal units, in the concern of Ministry of Industry and as per available information, a proposal to increase the investment limit for small scale sector is under consideration of the Government to meet the requirements of quality and technology amongst others, for small scale units.

Strike by the workers of Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited

337. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a strike for 72 hours by the workmen of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF);

(b) if so, the issue leading to the strike;

(c) whether the unions have now informed about an indefinite strike, if the issues are not resolved;

(d) if so, the action being taken by Government to avert the strike;

(e) whether the workers of National Fertiolizers Limited also have given a notice of an indefinite strike from 27th November, 1997; and

(f) if so, the action taken by Government so far to avert the strike?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The workers of Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF) went on 72 hours strike from 6.00 a.m. on 22nd October, 1997 to press their demand for payment of Bonus and incentive including ex gratia amount for the year 1996-97 over and above their entitlement as per the Government guidelines.

(c) and (d) The unions have not given any notice yet to go on indefinite strike. The management of RCF is making efforts to resolve the issue through dialogue with the representatives of the recognised union.

(e) and (f) Yes Sir. The recognised unions of various units of NFL including the Corporate Office have served notices for indefinite strike from 27.11.1997 to press decision on their charter of demands. The management had dialogue with the unions and this is still continuing at various levels. Simultaneously, conciliation proceedings have also been started by Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) at Chandigarh for the Panipat unit of NFL. Contingency plans are being made ready for running the plants in case no settlement is possible before 27.11.1997.

Revival proposal for Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

338. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Group of Ministers have approved any revival proposal for Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL);

(b) if so, the salient features of the acheis viz. reliefs and concessions agreed by Government, State Governments, FIs/ Banks and sacrifices envisaged from the workers; and

(c) if not, the present status of revival scheme for IDPL and the likely timeframe anvisegee for finalisation of reveival scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) On the basis of the outlines of revival proposal submitted by IDPL management and the employees, a Group of Ministers (GOA) in a meeting held on 8.8.97 recommended revival of IDPL and decided that IDPL management should be directed to rework, in close coordinated on with the represantetives of the employees of the company, a rehabilitetion proposal on given parameters. Such a proposal, prepered by IDPL management in consultation with the representatives of the